Unknown Agent Used in Blast

Senate Explosion Erased Evidence, Ott Says

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — An unknown explosive agent was used in conjunction with dynamite to blast the State Senate Chamber into rubble April 26, state police revealed Friday.

Col. Jack Ott of State Police said a preliminary report telephoned to local authorities by the FBI laboratories in Washington disclosed that the force of the explosion eradicated any physical evidence.

Ott said that the preliminary FBI report "was almost a negative report."

The FBI reported that the velocity of the explosion was too great to have been caused by dynamite alone. The velocity of the explosion, he said, destroyed nearly all physical evidence.

COUNTRY CLUB

Ott disclosed, however, that a 13-stick dynamite bomb discovered last month at the Baton Rouge Country Club has yielded fingerprints.

"We have not identified the fingerprints from the bomb as yet," Ott said of the bomb which was dismantled as it lay in a clump of bushes in front of the club.

Ott said a check of theft reports shows 150 pounds of dynamite have been stolen since the

first of 1968 and as much as 1,000 pounds may be missing.

He said a statewide survey, which does not yet include New Orleans, showed 65 bombings, 64 attempts and 603 bomb threats for the same time period.

INCENDIARY TYPE

Ott said 50 of the bombs were incendiary type, and 15 were explosive. He added that he had no statistics to differentiate between crude gasoline bombs and more sophisticated devices in the incendiary category.

The police agencies reporting the bombings attributed them to three major sources: Student unrest, labor disputes and "extremist groups."

Both Ott and Baton Rouge City Police Chief E. O. Bauer said they have not yet established a direct relation between the bomb which damaged the Senate chamber and a smaller one which damaged air conditioning equpment at the country club minutes earlier. The bomb which detonated at the country club was much smaller than the Senate explosive, and the dud later found at the club.

Bauer said Baton Rouge police have logged an average of three bomb threats a day since April 26.